

## **Commander John D. Zimmerman**

### **Commanding Officer, USS Jefferson City (SSN 759)**

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Commander John D. Zimmerman, from Bloomington, Illinois, graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1988 with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering.

After completing nuclear power training and the Submarine Officer's Basic Course, he reported to his first assignment, *USS GEORGIA* (SSBN729)(BLUE) where he served as Main Propulsion Assistant and Tactical Systems Officer. During this tour, he made six strategic deterrent patrols.

Zimmerman was then assigned as the Flag Aide to the Director, Test, Evaluation and New Technology Requirements (N091) on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations from June 1993 to May 1995.

Following completion of the Submarine Officer Advanced Course in December 1995, where he was recognized with the L.Y. Spear and David Lloyd awards for excellence in academics and leadership, he served as Engineer on board *USS PORTSMOUTH* (SSN 707) from January 1996 till July 1998. During this tour *USS PORTSMOUTH* completed two Western Pacific deployments and was awarded the Submarine Squadron 11 Engineering Red "E" and Battle Efficiency "E".

From August 1998 until July 2000, Zimmerman served as Squadron Engineer Officer for Submarine Squadron 11. In August 2000 he reported to the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island. He graduated first in his class and earned a Masters of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Affairs. Zimmerman was also recognized with the William Sowden Sims Award for excellence in leadership.

In October 2001, he reported as the Executive Officer of *USS MARYLAND* (SSBN738)(Gold). During this tour, *MARYLAND* completed three strategic deployments and was awarded the Submarine Squadron 20 Battle Efficiency "E" award.

Zimmerman's most recent tour was as an industrial base analyst on the staff of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Industrial Policy). There he was the program lead for the Global Shipbuilding Industrial Base Benchmarking Study, a comprehensive assessment of U.S. and international private shipyards.

Zimmerman's decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with two stars, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with three stars, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with two stars, and various unit awards.